



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE CONTINUES CRACK DOWN ON TAX EVASION: THREE SC RESIDENTS ARRESTED ON TAX CHARGES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2015

In an ongoing effort to hold noncompliant taxpayers accountable to the law, South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR) investigators arrested three individuals on unrelated tax charges. The defendants collectively evaded \$116,725 in back taxes owed to the state of South Carolina.

"Tax administration must be fair and consistent," said Director Rick Reames. "We take action against individuals who do not comply with the law to protect the majority of South Carolinians who do."

The three arrested individuals include:

- Ivan Nelson (46) of Richland County – Nelson was arrested on charges related to a business he previously owned, Haile's Funeral Home in Camden. Charges include seven counts of failure to file a tax return/pay a tax. For tax years 2007-2013, Nelson operated the business without a valid retail license and failed to file monthly sales tax returns to report a total of \$2,698,393 in sales. After deductions, Nelson owes \$75,867 in back taxes to the state. If convicted, he faces up to one year in prison and/or \$10,000 in fines per count. The defendant is currently being held at the Kershaw County Detention Center pending a bond hearing.
- Robert W. Crocker (68) of Spartanburg County – Crocker was arrested on six counts of attempt to evade or defeat a tax and owes \$16,022 in back taxes. For tax years 2006 – 2011, he claimed a total of \$279,568 in fictitious business expenses and deductions on his state income tax returns. If convicted, the defendant faces up to five years in prison and/or \$10,000 in fines per count. Crocker was booked in to the Spartanburg County Detention Center this morning and later released on a personal recognizance bond.

- Brandon M. Shapiro (40) of Beaufort County – Shapiro was arrested on seven counts of willful failure to file state income tax returns for tax years 2006 - 2012 and owes \$24,836 in back taxes. The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office assisted in the arrest. If convicted, Shapiro faces up to one year in prison and/or \$10,000 in fines per count. The defendant is currently being held at the Beaufort County Detention Center pending a bond hearing.

The SCDOR would like to remind taxpayers that individual income tax returns are due April 15, 2015. For more information regarding individual income taxes, please visit our [website](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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